

Town of Embden

Minutes of the Board of Selectpersons

~
September 6, 2011

5:30 PM Meeting held at the Embden Town Office

In attendance was: Dwight Barron, Ann Bridges, Robert Dunphy, Eleanor Ketchum, Terriann Lamontagne, Leo Mayo, Alton McClamma, Wayne McLaughlin, Elizabeth Pratt, Charles Taylor, James Wilson, and Bonnie Baker.

- 1 Charles Taylor called the meeting to order at 17:30.
- 2 The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.
- 3 **Executive Session** (Non-Public) (ME §405):
 - 3.1 C. Taylor made a motion (2nd – W. McLaughlin) to enter into executive session pursuant to 1 MRSA §405(g) to speak with the members of the Planning Board and the Code Enforcement Officer regarding a letter received from DEP. (3-0) Entered executive session at 17:32. C. Taylor made a motion (2nd – E.Pratt) to come out of executive session and take a short recess (3-0). C. Taylor made a motion (2nd – E.Pratt) to continue the meeting (3-0). Meeting was resumed at 18:47.
- 4 **Consent Agenda:**
 - 4.1 Approved the minutes of the Board of Selectpersons dated August 15, 2011. Accepted as written.(3-0)
 - 4.2 Reviewed Warrant #17 totaling \$19,283.26. (3-0)
- 5 **Appointments & Resignations:** None
- 6 **Department Officials Reports:**
 - 6.1 **E-911** – C. Taylor stated that E. Ketchum was looking for the key to Cardinal Drive.
 - 6.2 **Winter Roads Contractor** – C. Taylor stated he would call S. White.
 - 6.3 **Animal Control** – No Report.
 - 6.4 **Board of Assessors** – B. Baker submitted abatements from the Board of Assessors. Selectpersons reviewed and signed.
 - 6.5 **Planning Board** – R. Dunphy stated they were doing well.
 - 6.6 **Plumbing Inspector** – R. Dunphy stated he had done one in town. He stated L. Mayo was keeping up.
 - 6.7 **Board of Appeals** – R. Dunphy asked why the Selectpersons did not set it up so that the town had its own Board of Appeals. He said that way the town could do its own Assessing Appeals Board and Abatement Appeals Board instead of going outside of the town. C. Taylor asked whether home rule allowed them to do that. R. Dunphy replied yes. E. Pratt asked if C. Taylor would speak to John Duff to see if the current Appeals Board would be willing to handle all appeals. R. Dunphy stated it would save the town money on legal expenses.
 - 6.8 **Code Enforcement Officer** –
 - 6.8.1 R. Dunphy stated there were 8 issues on the agenda.
 - 6.8.2 W. McLaughlin stated he wanted a copy of the building permits. R. Dunphy replied that he did not fill those out. He explained the process that was followed. Discussion continued.
 - 6.8.3 R. Dunphy stated he had received a request on how to put a Veteran's cemetery in Embden. He added that the town had no ordinances against it. Discussion continued.
 - 6.9 **Health Officer** – R. Dunphy stated there were no health issues.
 - 6.10 **Road Commissioner** – No Report.
 - 6.11 **M.S.A.D. #74** – No Report.
 - 6.12 **Recreational Director** – E. Pratt said that there was not going to be soccer because the schools had teams. She added that W. Witham had plans to hold a youth group, and Larry Dunphy was going to do a grades 5-12 Ski Club.
 - 6.13 **Town Clerk/Treasurer** –
 - 6.13.1 B. Baker submitted a Treasurer's report.
 - 6.13.2 B. Baker stated that she would be at training in Waterville on Wednesday all day, and may be late Thursday due to a training in Farmington.
 - 6.13.3 B. Baker submitted a Check Reconciliation report for the Selectpersons to review.
 - 6.13.4 C. Taylor asked B. Baker to be "diligent" when she prepared the next warrant, and keep an eye on the inflows versus the outflows. He asked B.Baker to email him the final budget worksheet.
 - 6.13.5 He asked about the auditor. B. Baker stated she had received a draft but the auditor had asked her to wait for a more complete copy before submitting it to the Selectpersons for review. She stated that the auditor hoped to be at the office on Friday, September 16th.
 - 6.13.6 B. Baker said she planned to take her last 2 days of vacation on January 31st and February 1st. Discussion ensued.
 - 6.13.7 W. McLaughlin asked when the bids came due for the Tax Acquired property. B. Baker replied 9/16, to be opened at the next meeting. She stated she had not received any bids so far.
 - 6.14 **Tax Collector:** B. Baker submitted a 2010 Real Estate balances for Ruth Blake. B. Baker stated she would submit a report on 2009 & 2010 taxes for the next meeting.
 - 6.15 **Withdrawal from MSAD#74 Fact Finding Group** – W. McLaughlin stated there was nothing to report.

6.16 Community Center –

6.16.1 C. Taylor mentioned the newspaper article that had appeared today. E. Pratt said that the Misty Mountaineers had been cancelled. C. Taylor stated he had asked for a printout for the Community Center so they could know where they stood. W. McLaughlin replied, “If we had the \$16K you took away.” Discussion continued. W. McLaughlin asked what would happen if they overspent. C. Taylor replied that they would have to have a Special Town Meeting.

6.16.2 W. McLaughlin stated that S. Leahy was keeping an eye out for a wood pellet boiler like MSAD74 now has at the schools. R. Dunphy stated that biomass is better. He added that you get more BTUs out of biomass. He said he would bring in a chart for the Selectpersons. E. Pratt asked whether there would have to be someone there to maintain it. R. Dunphy said no, as long as you put in a conveyer. Discussion continued.

6.17 Emergency Management Directors – R. Dunphy said that someone was working on getting the Community Center declared an emergency shelter and getting a grant for a generator. He stated he would write a grant as soon as they came out. He added that if it was made into an emergency shelter, the town would be required to pay to maintain it.

7 Old Business:

7.1 Town of Embden Policies: None.

7.2 Repair of Community Center: W. McLaughlin stated that he had received 2 estimates for the work on the Community Center, William Atwood \$5,004 and Jeff Goodwin \$3,250. Board of Selectpersons reviewed. C. Taylor stated they needed to find where to fund it from. He stated he liked the \$3,250 if it was “apples to apples.” C. Taylor made a motion (2nd – E. Pratt) that they repair the Community Center using funds from the unanticipated budget, and have the work done by Jeff Goodwin & Desiree Bolduc per their estimate. (3-0)

8 New Business:

8.1 E. Pratt submitted a CD she received from MMA. She said it was 11 minutes in length, and MMA recommended playing it at the opening of town meeting. She said it explains how you are taxed. She added that B. Baker would make a couple of copies of the disk.

9 Correspondence:

9.1 C. Taylor read a letter from KVCOG regarding a Household Hazardous Waste Collection to be held October 1st in Skowhegan. The Selectpersons discussed and decided to decline.

9.2 He read the water quality report. He stated he needed to call and try to renegotiate the fire hydrant price.

9.3 C. Taylor read a letter from the State Planning Office.

9.4 C. Taylor read a letter from the County Administrator’s Office.

9.5 C. Taylor read a letter from MTCCA.

10 Community Relations, Announcements, and Open Public Forum:

10.1 Open Public Forum :

10.1.1 W. McLaughlin asked about the light on the flagpole. C. Taylor stated that P. Hillinski had installed a flood light. He went out and looked at it. He stated it wasn’t good, and he had just had to rotate it to let the water out. He said he would find out how P. Hillinski would treat the town in installing something else. E. Pratt stated that the town had paid him to do a job and he hadn’t done that job. W. McLaughlin stated he got paid “damn well.”

10.1.2 W. McLaughlin asked about the carpets and runners. B. Baker replied that they were drawing up the contract to clean the carpets. She said that she didn’t want to put down runners until after the carpets had been cleaned.

10.1.3 C. Taylor stated that the Town Office was a fairly new building. He asked whether painting the walls would help with the appearance. W. McLaughlin said that there was nothing wrong with cleaning it, but it wasn’t going to help. He added that he thought it needed to be painted.

10.1.4 B. Baker asked whether the Selectpersons had heard about the mail yet. W. McLaughlin stated he would check into it.

11 Next Meeting Announcement & Adjournment

11.1 Next Regular Selectmen’s Meeting – Monday, September 19, 2011.

11.2 Motion to adjourn made by E. Pratt (2nd- W. McLaughlin). Adjourned 20:32 (3-0).

*Minutes submitted by:
Bonnie A. Baker*